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**1980/01/29**

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON D C 20301

January 29, 1980

The Honorable Xu Xiangqian  
Minister of National Defense  
People's Republic of China  
Beijing, China

Dear Minister Xu:

I want to express my sincere appreciation and that of the entire US delegation for a very enjoyable visit to China. As our host, you are to be complimented for the excellent arrangements and your personal hospitality. The welcoming banquet that you hosted was truly outstanding and set the tone for our entire visit.

I appreciated the opportunity to talk personally with you, Premier Hua, Vice-Premier Deng, Vice-Premier Geng, Minister Huang and all of the other Chinese leaders. These talks--conducted in candor and in the spirit of friendship--enhanced the bilateral relationship between our two countries and established a basis for further discussions and contacts between our respective defense establishments.

Again, Mrs. Brown and I would like to thank you and Mrs. Xu for the many courtesies shown us during our stay in China and especially for the copy of the works of Sun Tu and the other beautiful gifts that you presented to us. We shall treasure them as mementos of our personal friendship and of the friendship between China and the United States.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

*Harold Brown*

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